

11 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 11 February 1969

DD/I reported that Bruce Clarke has analyzed Secretary Laird's interview Sunday on "Face the Nation" as reported in the New York Times and the Washington Post. Clarke has noted the impracticality of weighing the respective Soviet and U. S. ABM efforts in terms of GNP and has characterized the Secretary's remarks as reported in the press as "massive, conceptual discontinuity." Goodwin commented that a tape of the Secretary's interview should be available today.

Godfrey reported a major firing exercise or maneuver in the Berlin area and speculated that this may account for the unusual number of Soviet VIP military flights into East Berlin. He noted that OCI will closely follow these developments.

Maury summarized numerous indications from senators that hard questions are being asked with respect to NATO and to the criticalness of various members to U. S. national security interests.

The Director called attention to Embassy Moscow telegram 580 dated 10 February 1969, analyzing recent U. S. press analysis of maneuvers inside Soviet leadership circles. He asked whether the DD/P had received any comment from Radio Liberty analysts as requested on 5 February. DD/P reported that he is unaware of a

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response, and the Director asked that prompt action be taken to obtain RL assessments.

The Director queried the DD/I on the agenda for the NSC meetings scheduled for Wednesday and Friday of this week.

Goodwin attributed to some practical joker the recent allegations of the editor of the Greenville, Mississippi, newspaper that CIA funds in the amount of \$1,000 had been expended in Mississippi.

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L. K. White